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TITLE:

Image forming apparatus for

adjusting gradation using

subsidiary exposure

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INVENTOR-INFORMATION:

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ABSTRACT:

When to perform subsidiary exposure before or after main exposure or concurrently therewith with a quantity of light corresponding to about 1/50 to 1/100 of the quantity of light of main exposure, an image forming apparatus

according to the present invention can automatically set the standard conditions of subsidiary exposure in response to setting of the standard conditions of main exposure, and can set the optimal conditions of colors and intensity of subsidiary exposure in accordance with the amount of adjustment of gradation. Therefore, even when variations arise in the characteristics and processing conditions of a light-sensitive material or any desired gradation is chosen, natural and fine images can always be formed with no color balance distorted.

15 Claims, 7 Drawing figures

Exemplary Claim Number: 1

Number of Drawing Sheets: 5

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Detailed Description Text - DETX (7):

In an image forming apparatus according to a second aspect of the present invention, particularly of the **scanning** exposure type, since the characteristics and processing conditions of **light**-sensitive material and/or image receiving material vary, for the purpose of always forming optimal images, images are actually formed (at the time of machine installation, changing of the materials and processing conditions, periodic inspection, and

so on) using a **test chart** or test pattern to

density of these hard copies is measured by three primary color sensors of R,

G, B included in an image sensor and compared with that of the test chart or pattern previously measured, and on the basis of the results of comparison, the standard conditions of color and/or intensity of main exposure, or the extent of insertion (.DELTA.Y, .DELTA.M, .DELTA.C, .DELTA.D) of color filter Y, M, C and aperture D into a light path (a reference value is set to "0", for example) are set.